

CLAIMS:

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1. A print engine for a printer comprising:
- (a) a first process that receives a document to be printed on a printer;
- (b) a second process that examines said document to select which of a plurality of third processes is suitable to parse the printer description language of said document;
- (c) a first one of said plurality of third processes processing said document using a first printer description language in response to said selection of said second process;
- (d) a second one of said plurality of third processes processing said document using a second printer description language in response to said selection of said second process; and
- (e) said second process not terminating prior to said selected third process parsing said document.
2. The print engine of claim 1 wherein said second process continues to examine said document for synchronization data while said third process parses said document.
3. The print engine of claim 1 wherein said second process is a printer description language determination process and said first process is a data receiver process.
4. The print engine of claim 1 wherein said third processes are printer description language parsing processes for different printer description languages.

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5. The print engine of claim 1, further comprising a master control process that receives and responds to internal and external data sensor input.

5 6. The printer engine of claim 1 wherein said first printer description language is selected from the group of HP-PCL, PostScript, and Interpress Page Description Language.

10 7. The printer engine of claim 1, further comprising:
 (a) said first process receives a plurality of documents; and
 (b) said second process examines each of said
15 plurality of documents to select which of said plurality of third processes are suitable to parse the printer description language of each of said respective documents.

20 8. The printer engine of claim 7, further comprising:
 (a) said second process examines said plurality of documents for synchronization
25 data; and
 (b) said second process examining said document for said synchronization data simultaneously with said selected third process parsing said document.

30 9. The printer engine of claim 8, further comprising:
 (a) said selected third process detecting an error within one of said documents; and
35 (b) said second process initializing a different one of said selected third processes in response to said selected

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third process detecting an error within said document.

10. A method of printing documents comprising
5 the steps of:

- (a) receiving a document to be printed on a printer;
- (b) examining said document to select one of a plurality of parsers suitable to parse the printer description language of said document;
- (c) in response to step (b) processing said document by selecting at least one of a first printer description language and a second printer description language; and
- (d) said examining of step (b) continuing to examine said document for synchronization data while said processing of step (c).

11. The print engine of claim 10 wherein said receiving of step (a) is a data receiver process.

12. The print engine of claim 10 wherein said examining said document of step (b) is a printer description language determination process.

13. The print engine of claim 10 wherein said processing of step (c) are printer description language parsing processes for different printer description languages.

14. The print engine of claim 10, further comprising the step of providing a master control process that receives and responds to internal and external data sensor input.

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15. The printer engine of claim 10 wherein said first printer description language is selected from the group of HP-PCL, PostScript, and Interpress Page Description Language.

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16. The printer engine of claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving a plurality of documents; and
- (b) examining each of said plurality of documents to select which printer description language is suitable to parse the printer description language of each of said respective documents.

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17. The printer engine of claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

- (a) examining said plurality of documents for synchronization data; and
- (b) examining said documents for said synchronization data while said processing said document by said selecting said at least one of said first printer description language and said second printer description language.

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18. The printer engine of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting an error within one of said documents; and
- (b) initializing a different one of said selected said at least one of a first printer description language and said second printer description language.

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